

**CHILD WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**FRIDAY JUNE 17, 2016**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Gail Barber, Jerry Foxhoven, Jake Carmi, Jennifer Sievert , Kaci O'Day Goldstein, Carly Shaw, Wendy Rickman, George Belitsos, Julie Heiderscheit.

**Members Absent:**

Anne Guenwald, Jim Hennessey, Jean McAleer, Denise Moore, Julie Mann Phillips, Chris Secrist, Susan Walkup, Sen. Dennis Guth, Sen. Amanda Ragan, Sen. Amy Sinclair, Rep. Marti Anderson, Rep. Rob Taylor

**Visitors:**

Nancy Augustine

Martha Monroe-Coalition for Families and Children in Iowa

Angel Banks-Adams-LSA

Leah Carter-Juvenile Justice

Toya Johnson-Iowa citizens for Justice

Nan Stillians-Advocate for Families and Kids for cash program

Kara Lynn Regula-Department of Human Services

Meeting called to order 1:05 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The meeting minutes from the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting approved as written.

**Report on AMP:**

Jake's report on AMP, on July 17<sup>th</sup> thru July 23<sup>rd</sup> they will participate in AMP camp. Jake and a couple other AMP members along with Terri Bailey and Ruth Buckles from YSS, participated in a national show case to talk about AMP's legislative successes in the last 10 years which consists of 33 changes . Teens against Human Trafficking received an awarded a BOCA grant; this grant will help to expand the Teens against Human Trafficking program.

**Child Welfare Annual Progress and Services Report:**

Kara Lynn Regula provided a handout (see attachment). The handout provides an update on Iowa's child welfare system performance for the federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) outcomes and systemic factors, which was provided in the Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR). The handout is a summary of the much

larger report Kara Lynn compiled. The CFSR is a review, conducted jointly between the federal government and the State of Iowa, of Iowa's child welfare system. The handout covers the 7 Outcomes: Safety Outcomes 1 and 2, Permanency Outcomes 1 and 2, Well-Being Outcomes 1, 2 and 3; the 7 Systemic Factors; and the National Safety and Permanency Data indicators.



20160621114609633  
.pdf

The CFSR is in round three of this process. This round is a little different than in the past. States can request to conduct their own child and family service reviews, which Iowa plans to do.

The complete APSR is on the DHS website. Kara Lynn welcome's any comments.

### **Children's Justice:**

Gail Barber shared that the Court Improvement Project and Regional Partnership grant authorizations that have funded Iowa Children's Justice are up for renewal by Congress. The funding authorization is part of the Family First legislation that also includes modifying IV E funding to support prevention services and substance abuse services for families involved with the state child welfare agencies. The House Ways and Means Committee has passed HR5456 Family First Preservation act of 2016. It still needs to be voted on by the House and Senate.

She also reported that the Judicial Budget is status quo, which does not account for raises required through union negotiation. The Court has announced that there will not be any layoffs or any furlough days at this time. The Court also decided to maintain the variety of specialty courts that exist today, including the 13 family treatment courts. There will be no additional family courts added over the next year or two. The hope is that the budget can be balanced through attrition.

IVE-Review occurring this summer. With this review, three different requirements will be reviewed.

1. Licensing of foster and group care placements.
2. Income eligibility
3. Court orders and timely hearings

### **DHS Budget update:**

Wendy said the budget passed with no changes. There will not be any increases on the Field side or the Adult, children and family services side.

The Fiscal year 18 and 19 budget planning has currently being worked on and it also needs to be approved by the DHS Council prior to going to the governor.

George made a motion that CWAC recommend to the DHS Council that field services needs an increase funding for an increase in field staff levels. Seconded by Jake, motion carried.

The department is working on the Human Trafficking training. The Rules have been written.

A workgroup has been established looking at the data from Differential response. They will be looking to see if there is a need for definition for drug endangered children.

Mental health group contacts are Jerry Foxhoven spokesperson, Rick Shultz, the division administrator for mental health bureau, Anne Gruenwald and Wendy co-chair the group, Drug endangered children contact is Janee Harvey.

The bill passed by the legislature referred to as the Midwest Academy, is having the rules written currently.

Procurements-The last public statement was given on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Procurement's there is technical assistance and there are collation and non-collation members advising on different expects. We are looking at the financial part of this process for the budget planning. If you sign up to the procurement website you will receive any changes that are made to the site.

George made a motion that as the Budget for the 2018-2019 year is being prepared that there be no cuts in the overall amount that is provided for services provided by child welfare services. Seconded by Jennifer, motion carried.

Martha Monroe from the Coalition presented Jerry Foxhoven with an award, the Friend of Children Award. Jerry was nominated by 4 Oaks for this reward.

**Public Comment:**

Several members spoke during the public comment period expressing a number of concerns regarding the treatment of families within the system and offered suggestions to improve field practice.

**Next meeting:**

September 23rd 1:00 pm to 3:00 p.m. in the library at the Drake Legal Clinic.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.